

Amendments to the Claims

Please cancel Claims 48-49. Please amend Claim 54. The Claim Listing below will replace all prior versions of the claims in the application:

Claim Listing

1-46. (cancelled)

47. (previously presented): A method of stimulating bone growth in a subject at a site in need of bone growth and at which bone growth would not occur if left untreated, said method comprising the step of administering to the site a therapeutically effective amount of the peptide Ala-Gly-Tyr-Lys-Pro-Asp-Glu-Gly-Lys-Arg-Gly-Asp-Ala-Cys-Glu-Gly-Asp-Ser-Gly-Gly-Pro-Phe-Val-NH₂ (SEQ ID NO: 7).

48-49. (cancelled)

50. (previously presented): The method of Claim 47 wherein the agonist is administered in a pharmaceutical composition additionally comprising an implantable, biocompatible carrier.

51. (previously presented): The method of Claim 50 wherein the implantable, biocompatible carrier is an osteoconductive matrix.

52. (previously presented): The method of Claim 47 wherein the carrier comprises a polylactic acid/polyglycolic acid homopolymer or copolymer.

53. (previously presented): A method of stimulating bone growth in a subject at a site in need of a bone graft, said method comprising the step of administering to the site a therapeutically effective amount of the peptide Ala-Gly-Tyr-Lys-Pro-Asp-Glu-Gly-Lys-Arg-Gly-Asp-Ala-Cys-Glu-Gly-Asp-Ser-Gly-Gly-Pro-Phe-Val-NH₂ (SEQ ID NO: 7).

54. (currently amended): A method of stimulating bone growth in a subject at a segmental bone gap, a bone void or a non-union fracture ~~at which bone growth would not occur if said segmental bone gap, said bone void or said non-union fracture is left untreated, said~~ **method** comprising the step of administering to the bone gap, bone void or non-union fracture a therapeutically effective amount of the peptide Ala-Gly-Tyr-Lys-Pro-Asp-Glu-Gly-Lys-Arg-Gly-Asp-Ala-Cys-Glu-Gly-Asp-Ser-Gly-Gly-Pro-Phe-Val-NH₂ (SEQ ID NO: 7).